

SEPTEMBER

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T-MAN

**HE'S SMART!
HE'S TOUGH!**
He's Treasury Man
PETE TRASK!

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Y-MAN, September, 1951, No. 1. Published bi-monthly by Comic Magazines, 163 Pratt St., Meriden, Conn. Executive Offices, 578 Summer Street, Stamford, Conn. Everett M. Arnold, General Manager. Alfred Grenet, Editor. Richard Arnold, Associate Editor. Application for entry as Second Class Matter pending at the Post Office at Meriden, Conn. under the act of March 3, 1879. The characters and events pictured herein are entirely fictitious. The Publisher accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Editorial and Advertising Offices, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N.Y. Copyright 1951 by Comic Magazines. Printed in U.S.A.

T-MAN



There's NEVER A DULL MOMENT IN A U.S. TREASURY AGENT'S LIFE! HERE I WAS IN ROME WITH A WEEK TO DO NOTHING BUT RELAX! AND BROTHER, I NEEDED IT AFTER CHASING NASTY CHARACTERS ALL OVER THE WORLD... SO WHAT HAPPENS? NASTY CHARACTERS START CHASING ME ALL OVER ROME! AFTER THIS I DON'T THINK I COULD STAND ANOTHER "T-MAN'S HOLIDAY!"

I WAS STAYING AWAY FROM OUR ROME FIELD OFFICE AT THE TIME, SO I HADN'T HEARD ABOUT THE MURDER OF VITTORIO...

VITTORIO WAS ONE OF OUR AGENTS, AND A GOOD ONE...

CIAO! GIVE ME THE CHIEF WITH ALL HASTE! IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE!



SIGNOR, I HAVE THE RECORD! IT IS COMPLETE AND WORSE EVEN THAN WAS FEARED...





The
CHIEF
GOT THERE
ALMOST AS
QUICKLY
AS THE
POLIZZEI...
BUT
IT WAS
STILL
TOO
LATE!



MEANWHILE,
I'LL
GIVE
YOU
THREE
GUESSES
WHAT OLD
MAN
TRASK'S
LITTLE
BOY, PETE,
WAS DOING
IN ROME!



My
FIRST
NIGHT IN
ROME
AND EVERY-
BODY WAS
HAVING FUN
EXCEPT
ME! WHILE
ROME
FIDDLER
I BURNED!



The DOC AND HIS EYE-FILLING ASSISTANT LOOKED SO STARTLED AND GUILTY WHEN I BARGED IN THAT I FIGURED THEY'D BEEN PLAYING POST OFFICE!



AWRRK! SIGNORE, I DID NOT HEAR YOU ENTER!

I'LL GROAN LOUDER NEXT TIME! BUT I'M SURPRISED YOU COULDN'T HEAR THIS TOOTH HOWLING ALL THE WAY UP THE STREET!

I OFFER A THOUSAND REGRETS, SIGNORE, BUT MY OFFICE IS CLOSED!

BUT FOR THE HAND-SOME SIGNORE, IL DOTTORE WILL RE-OPEN IT! SIT IN THE CHAIR, IF YOU PLEASE!



DOC DIDN'T LIKE HAVING HIS DECISION CHANGED, BUT HE GOT TO WORK!

TEMPORARY FILLING, MARLITA! HE CAN RETURN IN ONE WEEK FOR A PERMANENT INLAY!

UG I CAG GUG GAG IS A GEEG, GOGDOR...

CALL IT A SIXTH SENSE, BUT THERE WAS A STRANGE TENSION IN THE AIR! THEN SUDDENLY...



GRAWWK! WHA...?

ALLIED AGENTS, DOCTOR! STAND RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE! AND YOU TOO, MISS! YOU IN THE CHAIR --- STAND UP!



WHY DON'T YOU GO FLY A KITE OVER THE TIBER?

WHA...? PETE TRASK! WHAT IN BLAZES ARE YOU DOING HERE? YOU AREN'T ON THIS CASE, ARE YOU?



I'M NOT ON ANY CASE, CHIEF! I'M JUST TRYING TO GET A TOOTH FIXED SO I CAN ENJOY A FEW DAYS' VACATION!

WELL, SIT RIGHT DOWN, PETE! DOC, GO AHEAD WITH YOUR JOB! IT WILL KEEP YOU OUT OF MISCHIEF WHILE WE LOOK AROUND!

FOR ALL HIS SHAKING, DOC GOT MY TOOTH PATCHED WHILE THE TREASURY BOYS DID A FIRST CLASS JOB AT CASING HIS OFFICE!



YOU H-HAVE NO RIGHT TO MOLEST ME! I WILL COMPLAIN TO YOUR CONSUL!

GO RIGHT AHEAD, DOCTOR! WE'RE USED TO COMPLAINTS! THE GUILTY ALWAYS SQUAWK THE LOUDEST!

BOYS, MEET PETE TRASK, ONE OF OUR TOP INTERNATIONAL AGENTS! I NEVER SAW THE CASE YET THAT PETE COULDN'T CRACK IN 24 HOURS!

OKAY, LAY OFF THE SOFT SOAP! I'M ON LEAVE UNTIL NEXT MONDAY AND I'M GOING TO **STAY** THAT WAY! YOU DON'T SUCK **ME** INTO THIS!

PLEASE, SIGNORE, ALL THIS HAS UPSET ME SO I DO NOT DO MY BEST! YOU MUST RETURN TOMORROW MORNING AND I WILL BE STEADY AGAIN!

I'LL BE HERE, DOC! DON'T SWIPE ANY INTERNATIONAL SECRETS UNTIL YOU'VE GOT MY TOOTH FIXED!

TALK ABOUT COINCIDENCE! YOU PICK THE ONE DENTIST WE KNOW IS MESSED UP IN A DIRTY RED SPY RACKET!

DON'T TELL ME ABOUT IT! I DON'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU BIRDS WERE LOOKING FOR IN THERE!

HAVE IT YOUR WAY, PETE! I CAN'T SAY I BLAME YOU! REMEMBER ONE OF MY AGENTS, VITTORIO ALCINI? YOU WORKED WITH HIM ONCE ---

SURE! ON THAT CELLINI BOMB CASE! A SMART BOY, AND GOOD LOOKING, TOO!

NOT ANY MORE, PETE! THE STILETTO DOC LONTARO'S APES STUCK INTO HIM TONIGHT KIND OF SPOILED HIS GOOD LOOKS! WELL, HAVE FUN ON YOUR WEEK OFF!

HAVE FUN, HE SAYS! GAHH! THE LUG KNEW BLAMED WELL HE'D WRECKED ANY CHANCE I HAD OF RELAXING!

BUT THE SIGNORE HAS TOUCHED NOTHING! IS ANYTHING WRONG?

YEAH, BUT NOTHING A CHEF CAN FIX! I JUST LOST MY APPETITE!

IN A FINE FURY, I HIKED PAST THE VICTOR EMMANUEL MONUMENT, INTO THE RUINS OF ANCIENT ROME!

OKAY, I SURRENDER! IN THE MORNING I'LL CHECK WITH THE CHIEF BEFORE I GO BACK TO THAT JAW-BUTCHER! MAYBE I CAN HELP! BUT TONIGHT IS MINE AND I'M GOING TO USE IT FOR RELAXING!





But NOTHING LIKE THE WAY I FOOLED HIM WHEN HE JUMPED UP FOR WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS GOING TO BE AN EASY KILL!



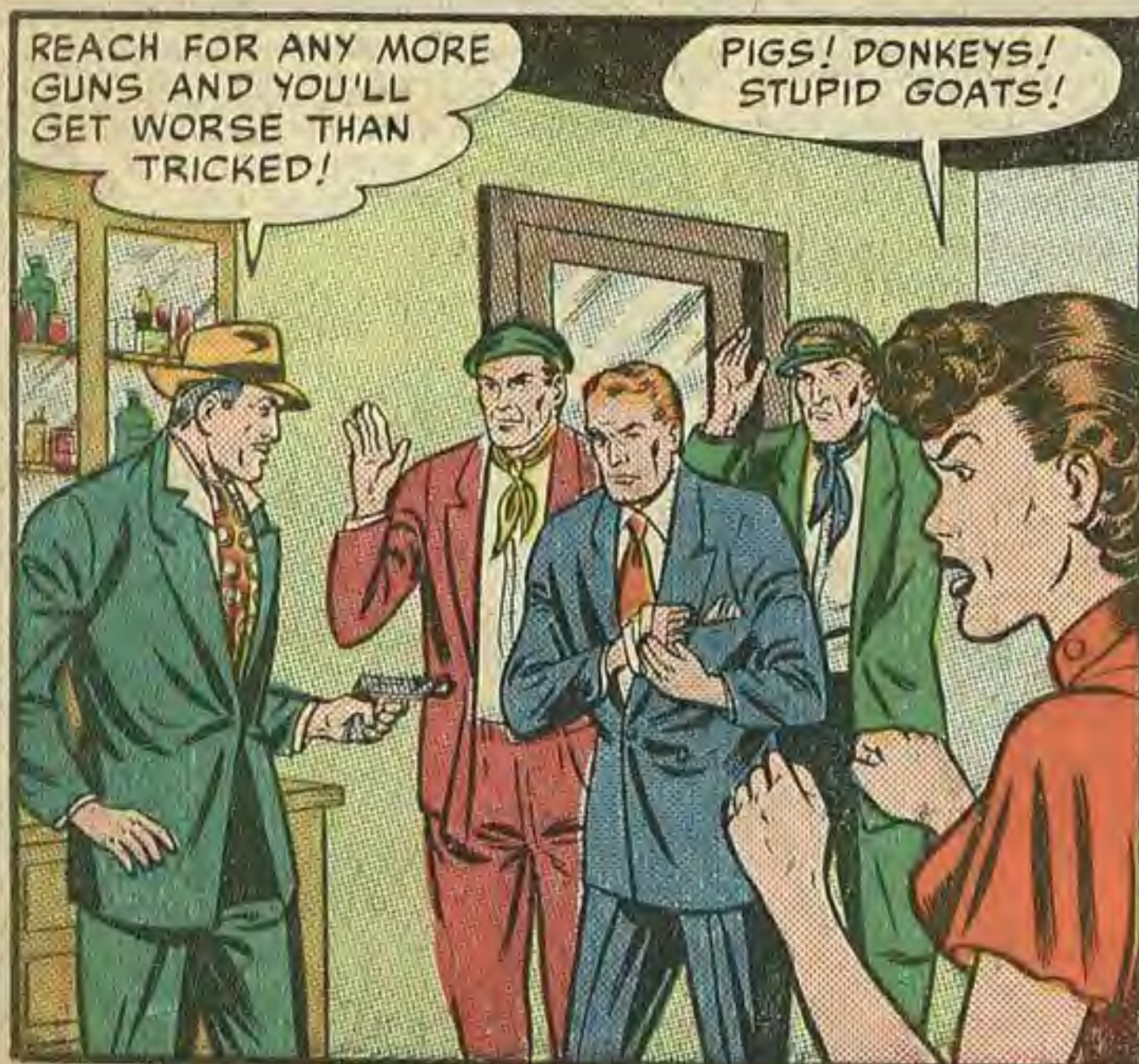
I WANTED HIM ALIVE TO TALK, BUT THE MOONLIGHT SPOILED MY AIM! HE WAS ALIVE, BUT COLDER THAN AN ESKIMO'S BREAKFAST! POLICE WHISTLES WERE SHRILLING!





I PLANTED MARLITA IN FRONT OF A MARTINI AND EXCUSED MYSELF TO MAKE A CALL! LATE AS IT WAS, THE CHIEF WAS AT OUR OFFICE!





From
THE
CORNER
OF MY
EYE I SAW
MARLITA
REACH FOR
THE PIVOTED
DENTAL LAMP
--- BUT I
COULDN'T
MOVE FAST
ENOUGH TO
DO ANY-
THING
ABOUT IT!



IT WAS AS JOLLY AS AN IRISH WAKE FOR ABOUT THREE MINUTES! I COULD HIT ANYTHING I SAW AND KNOW IT WASN'T A FRIEND!



BUT IT WAS TOO GOOD TO KEEP TO MYSELF!

AWRIGHT, BREAK IT UP, BREAK IT UP!

AW, NUTS! JUST WHEN I HAD THIS RAT IN THE KIND OF HOLD I WANTED!



I FIGURED YOU GUYS WERE HIDING AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE! YOU CAN SWEAT THOSE THUGS AND FIND OUT WHICH ONE KILLED VITTORIO!

YEAH, YEAH! WE CAN HANDLE ALL THAT! NOW GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!

THE IMPORTANT THING IS... WHERE IS THAT MICROFILM OF THEIR ORDERS FOR THE BIG UPRISING? YOU SAID YOU KNEW!

I SHOULD KNOW! I'VE BEEN CARRYING IT INSIDE MY HOLLOW TOOTH ALL EVENING!

FIGURE IT OUT! THERE I WAS AND THERE YOU WERE! WHAT BETTER HIDING PLACE THAN UNDER THE PLASTER OF A TEMPORARY FILLING?

HOLY SMOKE! NO WONDER DOC ALMOST WENT NUTS WHEN HE FOUND OUT THE GUY HE USED FOR A STOOGES WAS OUR TOP T-MAN! OKAY, BOYS...



HEY! WHAT TH...? GET AWAY FROM ME, YOU-WISE GUYS! I WANT A DENTIST! WAIT!

RELAX, PETE! BOB, HERE, TOOK DENTAL TRAINING YEARS AGO! THIS WON'T HURT YOU... MUCH! THINK OF YOUR VACATION!

HERE IT IS! IT'S JUST AS I TOLD YOU, BOYS... ONCE PETE GETS HIS **TEETH** INTO A CASE, IT'S AS GOOD AS SOLVED!

OKAY, YOU WISE APPLES! HAVE YOUR FUN! BUT I'VE STILL GOT SIX DAYS OF MY LEAVE LEFT AND **YOU'VE ALL GOT TO WORK!**



AUGIE MOORE

AND THE TEEN TERRORS

Introducing
MARCIE BLAYNE
SLOPE CARR
RED

W- WE'RE OUTNUMBERED- "THIRTY EIGHT" TO FOUR!

AUGIE MOORE IS AN AVERAGE GUY, WITH AVERAGE FRIENDS, LIVING IN AN AVERAGE CITY! MILLERTON HAS THE USUAL HOMES, STORES, PIGEONS AND PARKS AND AN AVERAGE AMOUNT OF CRIME PROBLEMS!

BUT WHEN AUGIE AND THE LOCAL SODA SET DROP THEIR STRAWS TO PICK UP THE LANCE AGAINST CRIME, THE RESULT IS FAR FROM AVERAGE!

DAD KINE'S SODA FOUNTAIN... ROW "A", SEATS ONE, TWO AND THREE...

"THEN, SLOWLY TURNING, HIS HORRIFIED EYES BEHELD TWO SCALY HANDS- PHEW! REACHING FOR HIS THROAT—"

HONEST, AUGIE— YOU AND YOUR MURDER STORIES!

HEY, SLOPE! WHERE'VE YOU BEEN ALL DAY?

I'VE JUST HAD THE SHOCK OF MY LIFE!

DOUBLE-MALTED, DAD! MAKE IT STRONG!

YOU MEAN YOUR PA FINALLY MADE YOU GET A JOB?

BILL BRENSON—YOU KNOW HIM... BIG GUY... LIVES ON MY STREET— BILL WAS CAUGHT ROBBING A STORE! I COULD HARDLY BELIEVE IT! WHY, WE GREW UP TOGETHER! HE WAS ALWAYS A CRAZY KID, BUT THIS— ROBBERY! IT WAS LIKE A KICK IN THE TEETH!

"TIGHTER, TIGHTER THE HANDS GRIPPED HIS THROAT—"

BILL BRENSON? IS HE THE FELLOW WHO— OH, AUGIE! FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!



WHAT A BOOK! THAT'S MY IDEA OF LIVING—BE A DETECTIVE! MYSTERY! ACTION! CLUES!...SAY, DID SOMEBODY MENTION BILL BRENSON'S NAME? WHAT ABOUT HIM?

SO YOU FINALLY CAME TO!

HERE... IT'S ALL IN THE PAPER!—THANKS, DAD! CUFF ME 'TIL FRIDAY, HUH?

WHICH FRIDAY?



"...AND AFTER A WILD FLIGHT, BRENSON SURRENDERED AMID A HAIL OF GUNFIRE—**WOW!**—"**POLICE ARE ORDERED TO STAMP OUT JUVENILE DELINQUENCY!**"

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A TEN O'CLOCK CURFEW FOR EVERYONE UNDER TWENTY?



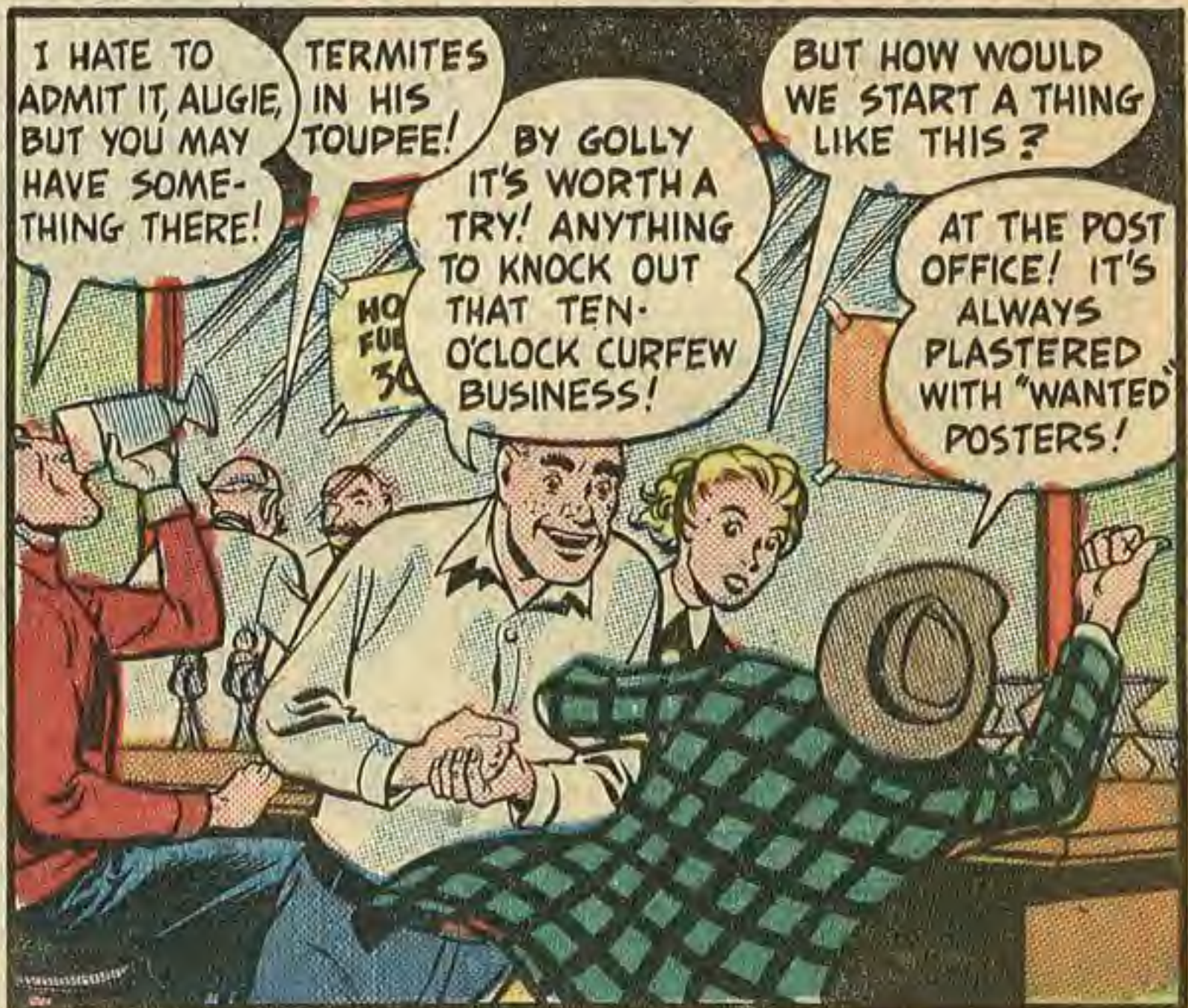
TEN O'CLOCK?
NO!

WELL I'LL BE— IF THAT DOESN'T—**TEN O'CLOCK!!** JUST BECAUSE ONE GUY GETS INTO TROUBLE THEY LABEL US **ALL** DELINQUENTS!



MARCIE'S RIGHT! THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO MAKE PEOPLE REALIZE MOST OF US ARE ON THE SQUARE!

DETECTIVES! THAT'S THE ANSWER! FORM A VIGILANTE GROUP! FIGHT CRIME! RUN THE RATS OUT OF TOWN! THAT'D MAKE FOLKS SIT UP AND TAKE NOTICE!



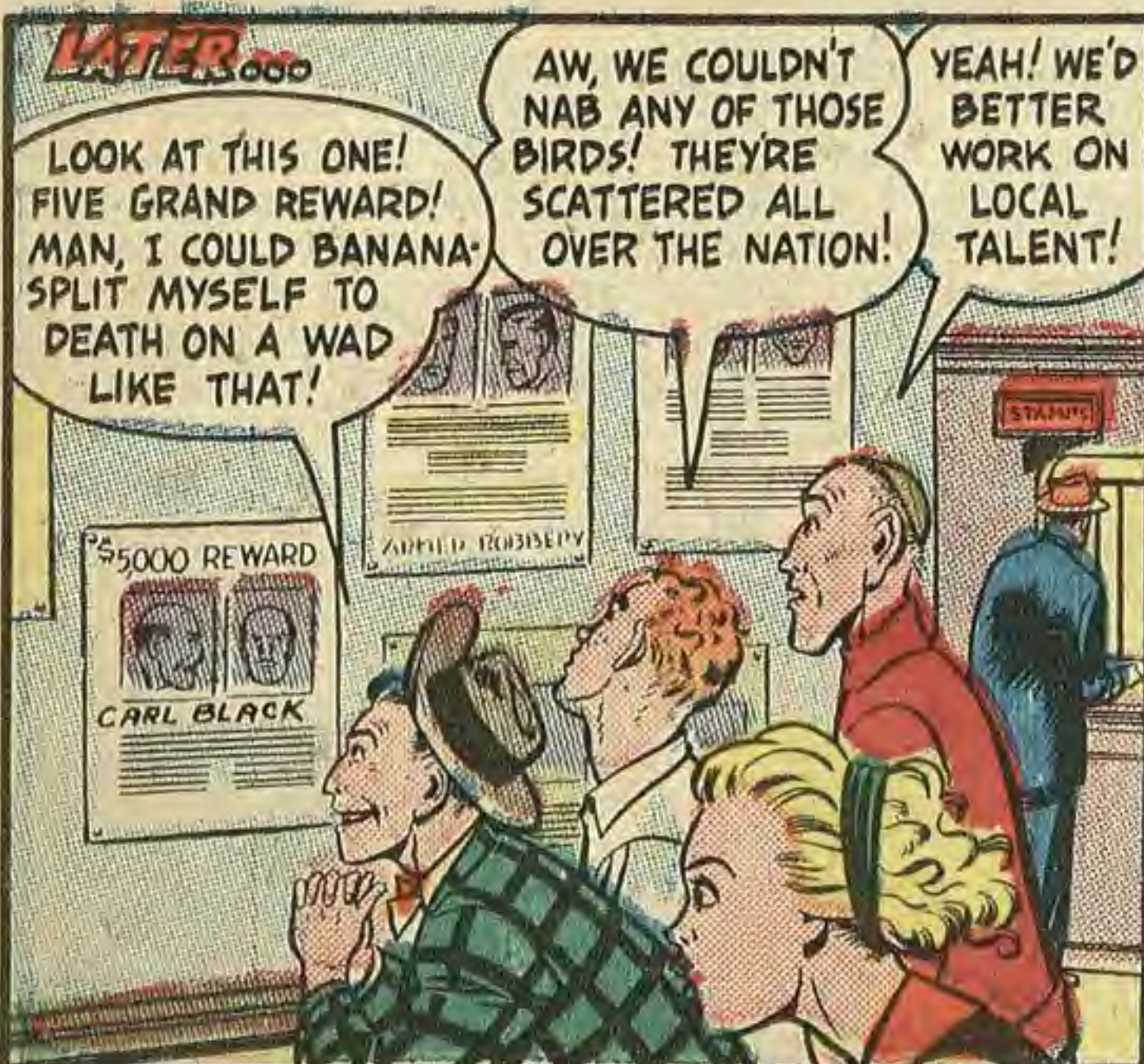
I HATE TO ADMIT IT, AUGIE, BUT YOU MAY HAVE SOMETHING THERE!

TERMITES IN HIS TOUPEE!

BY GOLLY IT'S WORTH A TRY! ANYTHING TO KNOCK OUT THAT TEN-O'CLOCK CURFEW BUSINESS!

BUT HOW WOULD WE START A THING LIKE THIS?

AT THE POST OFFICE! IT'S ALWAYS PLASTERED WITH "WANTED" POSTERS!



LOOK AT THIS ONE! FIVE GRAND REWARD! MAN, I COULD BANANA-SPLIT MYSELF TO DEATH ON A WAD LIKE THAT!

AW, WE COULDN'T NAB ANY OF THOSE BIRDS! THEY'RE SCATTERED ALL OVER THE NATION!

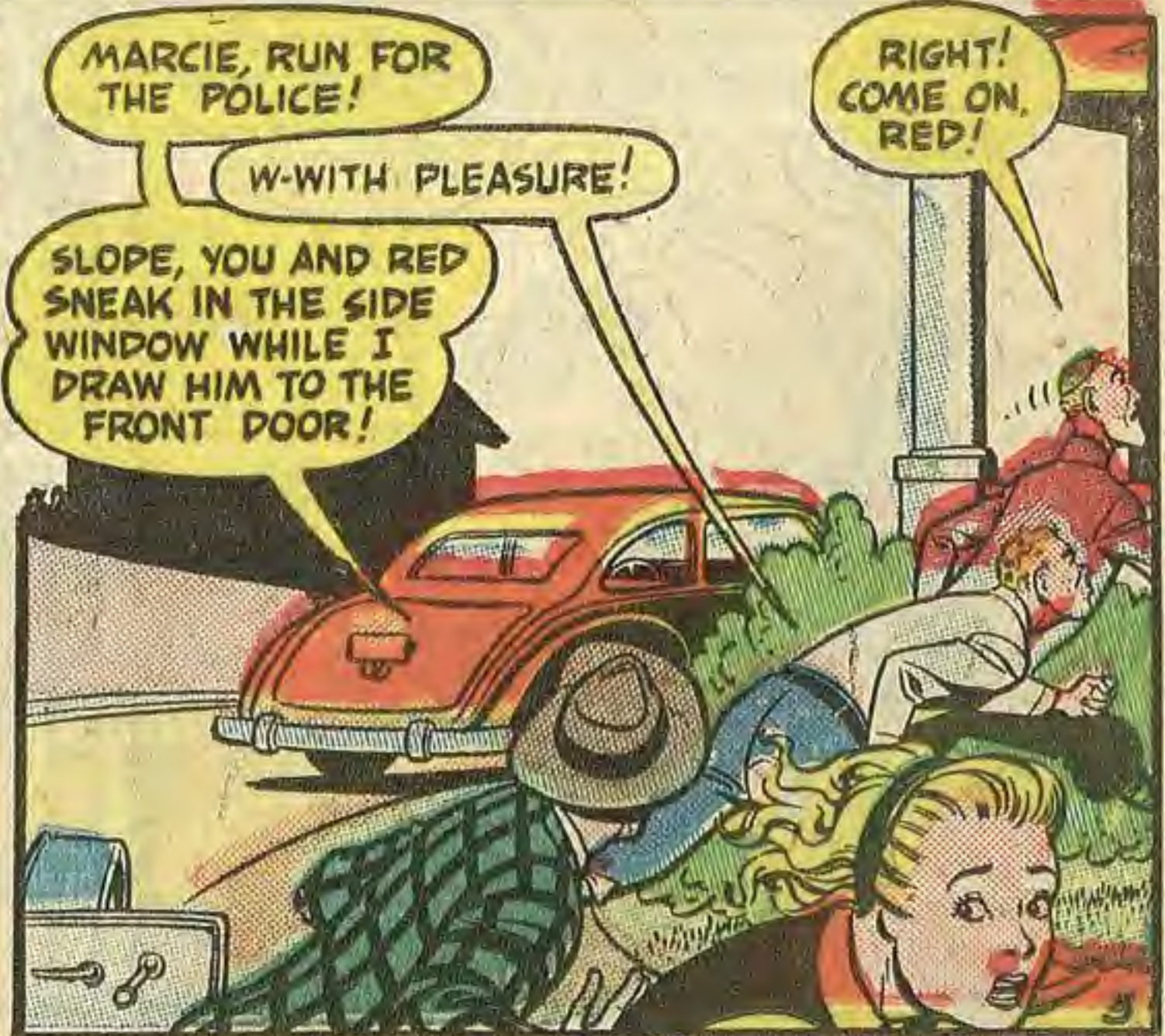
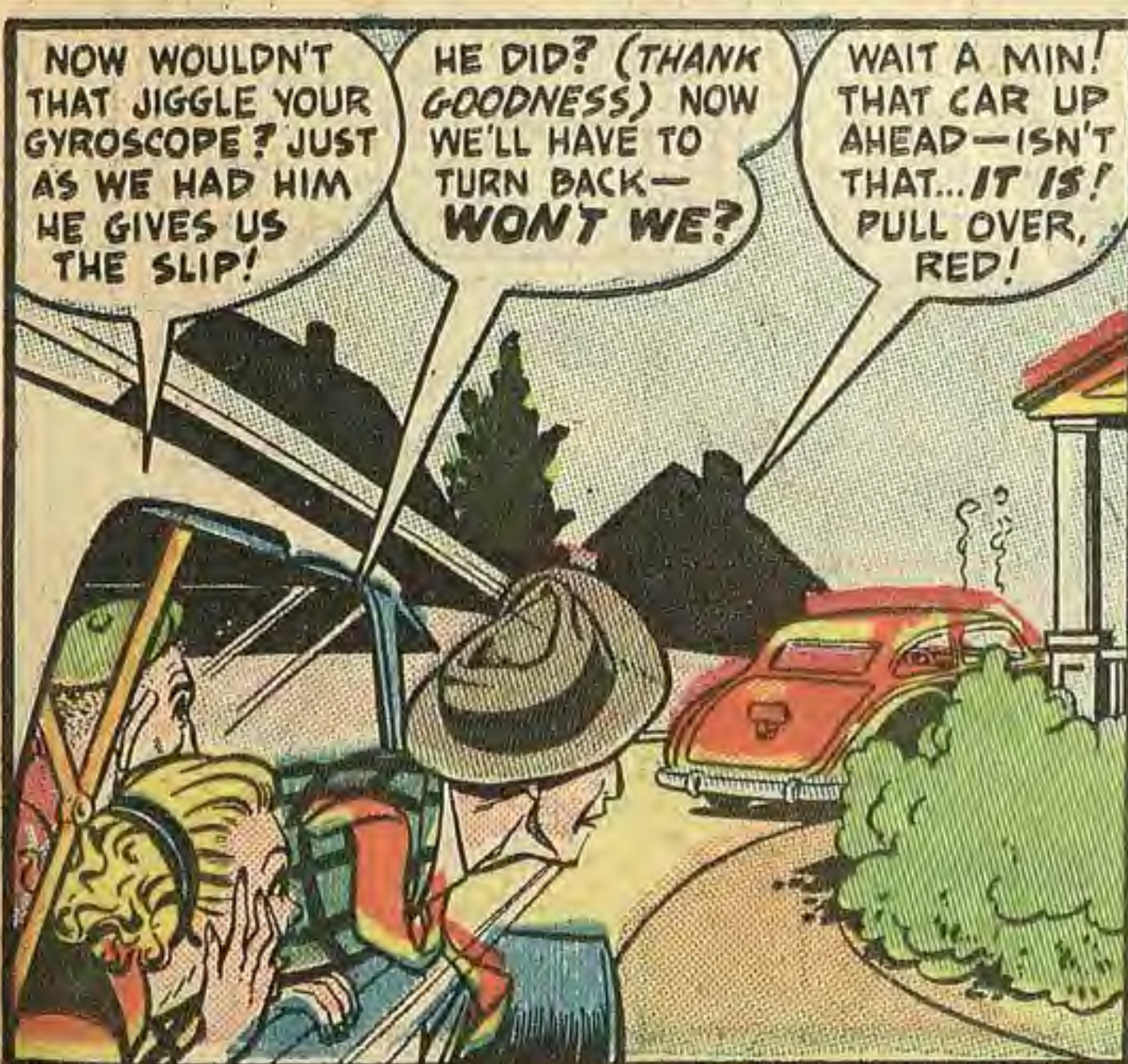
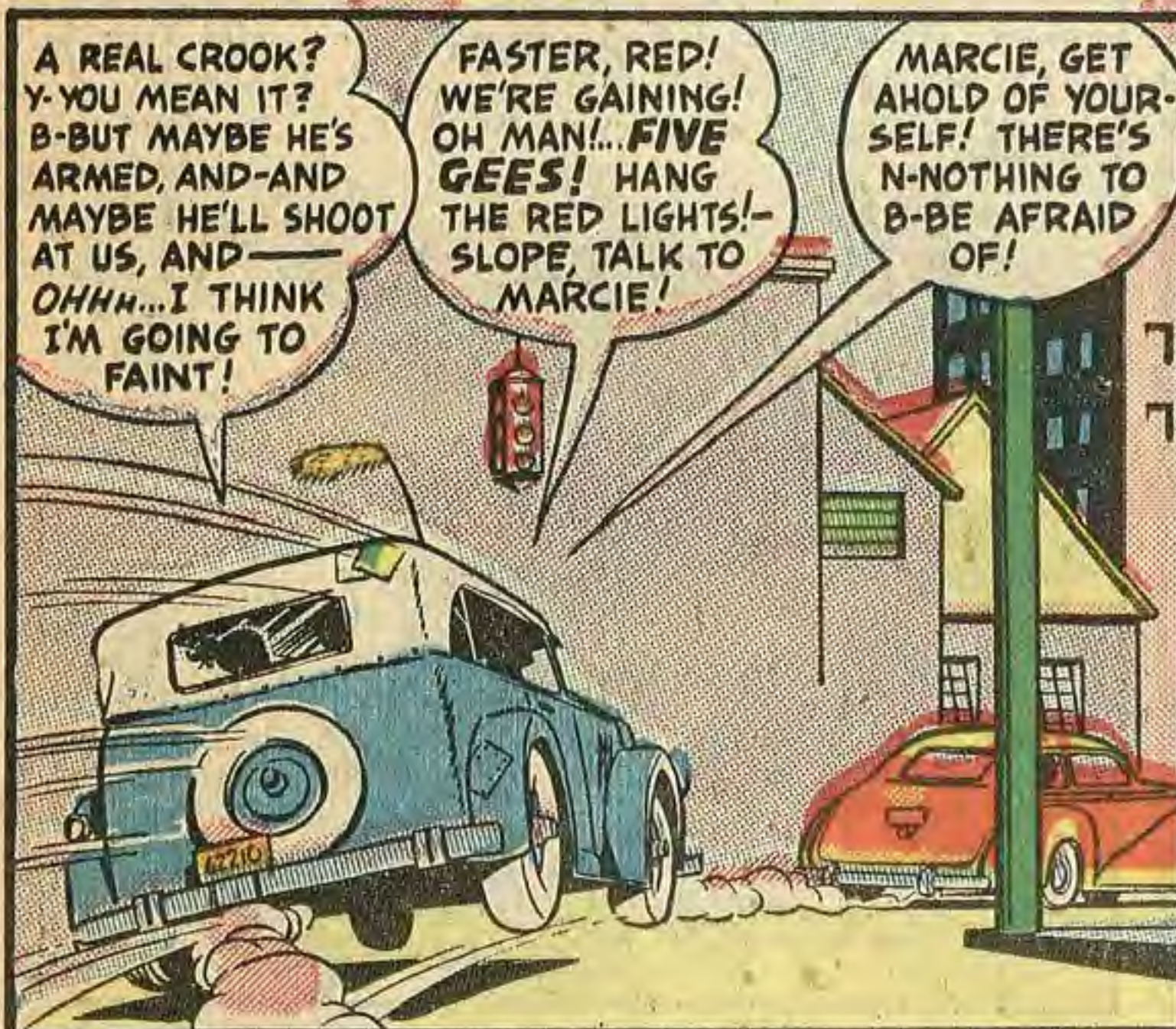
YEAH! WE'D BETTER WORK ON LOCAL TALENT!



MAYBE WE OUGHT TO SPLIT UP AND COVER THE POOL ROOMS AND STUFF FOR LEADS!

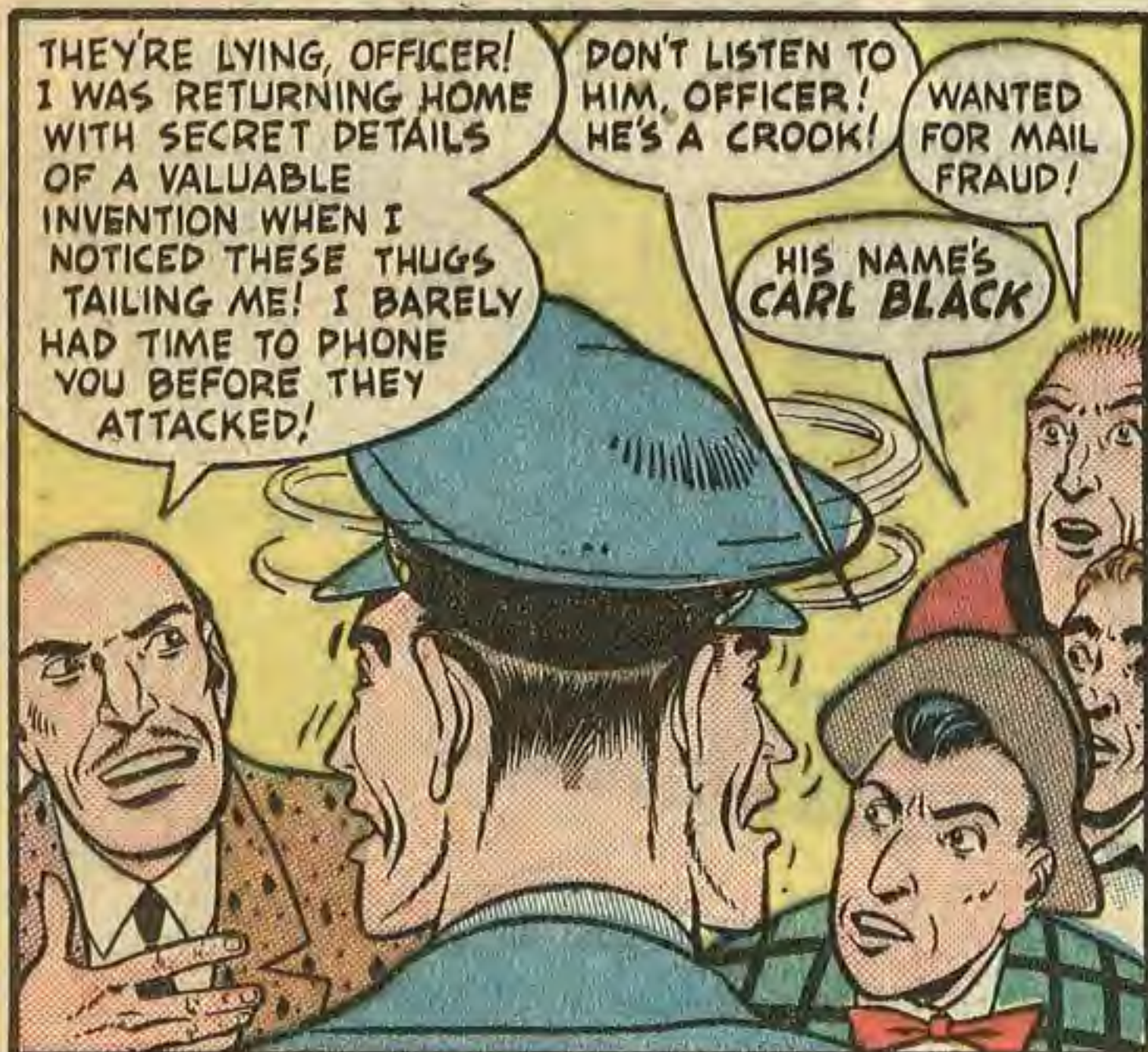
ME IN A POOL ROOM?

NOT YOU, MARCIE! YOU CAN DO RESEARCH, KEEP RECORDS AND—**OH, HELLO MR. BLACK!**





T-MAN



T-MAN

WHEN THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT TELLS AN AGENT HE'S ON HIS OWN... BROTHER, THEY AREN'T KIDDING! THERE I WAS, CAUGHT COLD WITH MY HAND IN BARON RAFSKY'S PERSONAL BAGGAGE AND A GRIM CHOICE BEFORE ME! EITHER I COULD EMBROIL THE DEPARTMENT IN AN INCIDENT THAT COULD LEAD TO WAR... OR I COULD SEND MYSELF TO PRISON FOR 20 YEARS AS...

*The PRINCE
of THIEVES!*



THIS CASE BEGAN IN WASHINGTON WHERE AN IMPORTANT SECURITY OFFICER WORKED LATE AND ALONE!

WHA...? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? PUT DOWN THAT GUN!



ARGHHH!



At THAT HOUR OF THE NIGHT, THE VASTNESS OF THE PENTAGON SWALLOWED THE SOUND OF THE SMALL-CALIBER GUN!



THEY JERKED ME OFF ANOTHER CASE AND FLEW ME TO WASHINGTON THE NEXT MORNING! THE CHIEF GAVE ME THE NEWS!

WOW! WHOEVER GOT THAT BOOK CAN BREAK DOWN ALL OUR CODED MESSAGES! IF YOU HAD THE GHOST OF A CLUE, CHIEF---

THAT'S THE WEIRD PART OF IT, PETE! WE KNOW EXACTLY WHO HAS THE CODE BOOK! HE'S SAILING FOR HOME AT NOON TODAY!



BARON RAFSKY AND HIS BARONESS ARE HERE ON A SUPPOSED DIPLOMATIC MISSION FOR AN IRON CURTAIN COUNTRY! BUT WE KNOW HE'S A SPY!

THEN, FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE, NAIL THE GUY AND GET THE CODE BOOK BACK! WHAT'S SO TOUGH ABOUT THAT?



JUST THIS --- IF WE ARREST RAFSKY AND **DON'T** FIND THE BOOK, WE'VE SET OFF AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT THAT COULD LEAD TO WAR!

UH-OH! DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY, EH? AND YOU FIGURE THAT LOUSE HAS IT WELL HIDDEN! I BEGIN TO SEE THE GIMMICK!



YOU'RE BOOKED FOR THE ADJOINING CABIN ON THE LINER VERNON, SAILING AT NOON! BEYOND THAT, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN! LUCK, 'PETE!

I'LL NEED IT! IF I'M CAUGHT FRISKING HIS BAGGAGE AND **CAN'T** PRODUCE THE BOOK, YOU'LL SWEAR I'M NOT WORKING FOR YOU!



EXACTLY! WE'LL DISOWN YOU! OTHERWISE, THE KREMLIN COULD MAKE AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT OUT OF IT! BUT IF YOU FIND IT---

THEN WE'VE GOT UNCLE JOE WHERE HIS PANTS ARE TIGHT! OKAY, CHIEF! IT SHOULD BE AS EASY AS CRACKING ATOMS WITH MY TEETH!



SO I WENT ABOARD! A LITTLE GREASING WITH THE TAX-PAYERS' MONEY GOT ME A SEAT AT THE SAME TABLE WITH MY QUARRY!

BARON AND BARONESS RAFSKY, MAY I PRESENT MR. TRASK, WHO WILL SHARE YOUR TABLE FOR THE VOYAGE!



I HAD MY STORY ALL COOKED UP!

SO WHEN I INHERITED ALL THIS MONEY, I DECIDED TO SPEND IT SEEING THE WORLD!

WE ARE HONORED TO HAVE YOU AT OUR TABLE, MR. TRASK! BUT I WONDER WHO WILL OCCUPY THE OTHER PLACE WITH US!



INTO EACH LIFE SOME RAIN MUST FALL, THEY SAY! AT THIS MOMENT, BROTHER, I COLLECTED A CLOUD-BURST!

AH, I SEE THE CAPTAIN BRINGING OUR FOURTH, NOW! WHAT A CHARMING YOUNG LADY!

GUG! OH, NOOO!





MAY I PRESENT YOUR FOURTH COMPANION... MISS BETTY ANDERS, OF THE UNIVERSAL NEWS SYNDICATE!

WHA...? WHY, PETE TRASK, HOW WONDERFUL! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE THAT MAD NIGHT IN SHANGHAI!



YOU DARLING! I THOUGHT YOU GOVERNMENT AGENTS PUT ON FALSE WHISKERS AND TRAVELED AS STOKERS OR SOMETHING!

AWRRRK! GOVERNMENT AGENT!



UH-OH! P-PETE! DID I S-SAY SOMETHING WRONG!

OH, NO, PRECIOUS! PERISH FORBID! BUT THE NEXT SOUND WE HEAR WILL BE SOME OF YOUR CUTE VERTEBRAE CRACKING BETWEEN MY HANDS!



ME AND MY GREAT BIG MOUTH! OHHHH, PETE!

WELL, BARON AND BARONESS! NOW THAT THE CAT IS OUT OF THE BAG, WE MAY AS WELL ENJOY OUR DINNER! WE'RE STUCK WITH EACH OTHER!



YOU BEAUTIFUL MORON! THIS MONKEY'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KILLING OF A MILITARY CODE EXPERT AND THE THEFT OF A VITAL CODE BOOK!

BUT THIS YOU CANNOT PROVE, MR. TRASK! UNTIL YOU DO PROVE IT I AM PROTECTED BY MY DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY! LUCKY FOR ME, IS IT NOT?



IT WAS ONE OF THOSE NEVER-A-DULL-MOMENT CRUISE SHIPS! THE CAPTAIN GAVE ME AN IDEA!

ARE WE ALL HAVING JOLLY FUN, I TRUST? SUCH FINE, CONGENIAL COMPANY! THE SEA'S A BIT ROUGH, BUT YOU ALL SEEM STURDY! HA-HA!

IS...IS THAT WHY MY S-STOMACH KEEPS TURNING OVER?



RRRP! EX-EXCUSE ME, F-FOLKS! I DON'T THINK I'M INTERESTED IN ANY...UGH...DINNER JUST N-NOW!

OH, YOU POOR MAN! SEA-SICKNESS IS SO HORRIBLE!

Now that Betty had brought things to a head, I knew I had to jump and jump fast! Once out of sight, I went into action!



I WAS SO BUSY HUNTING I DIDN'T HEAR A SOUND UNTIL THE DOOR SUDDENLY CLICKED OPEN!

SO! I THOUGHT THAT CASE OF SEASICKNESS CAME ON QUICKLY! GET YOUR HANDS UP!

HELP! ER... HAVE YOU SEEN ANYTHING OF A SMALL GRAY RHINOCEROS, BARON! MINE SEEMS TO HAVE WANDERED AWAY! I WAS JUST LOOKING....!



I KNEW I WAS SUNK! THE BARON KEPT ME COVERED WHILE HIS CUTE HELPMATE YELLED FOR THE LOCAL LAW!

BUT... BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! SURELY, MR. TRASK, YOU HAVE SOME REASONABLE EXPLANATION FOR BEING IN THIS CABIN!

OKAY, SO YOU GOT ME! I'M AN INTERNATIONAL JEWEL THIEF, SEE! I FIGURED THE BARONESS WOULD HAVE SOME ICE I COULD LIFT, SEE!



WHAT? NO FLASHING OF BADGES, MY DEAR MR. TRASK? NO REFUGE BEHIND YOUR AUTHORITY? TELL THEM WHO YOU ARE!

AND HAVE YOUR WISE GUYS BUILD IT UP AS AN AMERICAN GESTA-PO DEAL? NO THANKS, CUTIE! I'LL TAKE THE RAP THIS WAY!



SO THERE I WAS... AND NOBODY IN THE WORLD COULD HELP ME NOW BUT PETE TRASK!

I AM SHOCKED BEYOND WORDS, MR. TRASK! YOU WILL BE HELD HERE AND TURNED OVER TO PROPER AUTHORITIES AT OUR FIRST PORT OF CALL!

AW, YOUR GRANDMUDDER'S MUSTACHE! GO FRY AN ANCHOVY, BUSTER!



They DID LET ME HAVE A VISITOR!

PETE, YOU IDIOT! I'M GOING RIGHT TO THE CAPTAIN AND TELL HIM WHO YOU ARE AND WHY YOU WERE IN THEIR CABIN!

YOU DO, YOU LITTLE NITWIT, AND I'LL TELL HIM YOU'RE MY ACCOMPLICE WHO LINES UP JOBS FOR ME! NOW SHUT UP AND LISTEN...



I TOLD BETTY THE FACTS OF LIFE ABOUT MY SET-UP WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND MY POSITION WITH THE BARON! IT SHOCKED HER PLENTY!

--- SO IF YOU WANT TO HELP ME, GET THAT DOUGH-BRAINED CAPTAIN DOWN HERE SOMEHOW AND GET HIM CLOSE TO THESE BARS!

ALL R-RIGHT, P-PETE! I --- I HAD NO IDEA IT WAS SO SERIOUS!



I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE WORKED IT, BUT SHE GOT HIM DOWN THERE!

BUT MY DEAR YOUNG LADY, A THIEF IS A THIEF! HARRUMPH!

OH, BUT Y-YOU'RE SUCH A BIG, STRONG, HAND-SOME MA-A-ANN!



GRAB HIM, PETE! ATTA BOY, HERO!

SHUT UP AND FIND THE KEYS TO THIS BIRDCAGE, STUPID! HE'S GOT 'EM ON HIM SOMEWHERE!

TEE-HEE! THIS IS EXCITING! CAN I BE A LADY T-MAN, HUH, PETE? OR A T-GIRL OR SOMETHING?

YOU'LL BE A DEAD DUCK IF YOU DON'T LEARN TO KEEP A LOCK ON THAT MOUTH OF YOURS! FIND ME THE NEAREST SHIP TELEPHONE!

BARON RAFSKY? THIS IS THE CAPTAIN! I WANT TO SEE YOU AND THE BARONESS IN MY CABIN AT ONCE, PLEASE! IT IS IMPORTANT!



THERE THEY GO! NOW IT'S UP TO YOU TO KEEP THEM AWAY FROM THEIR CABIN FOR TEN MINUTES! I DON'T CARE HOW YOU DO IT!

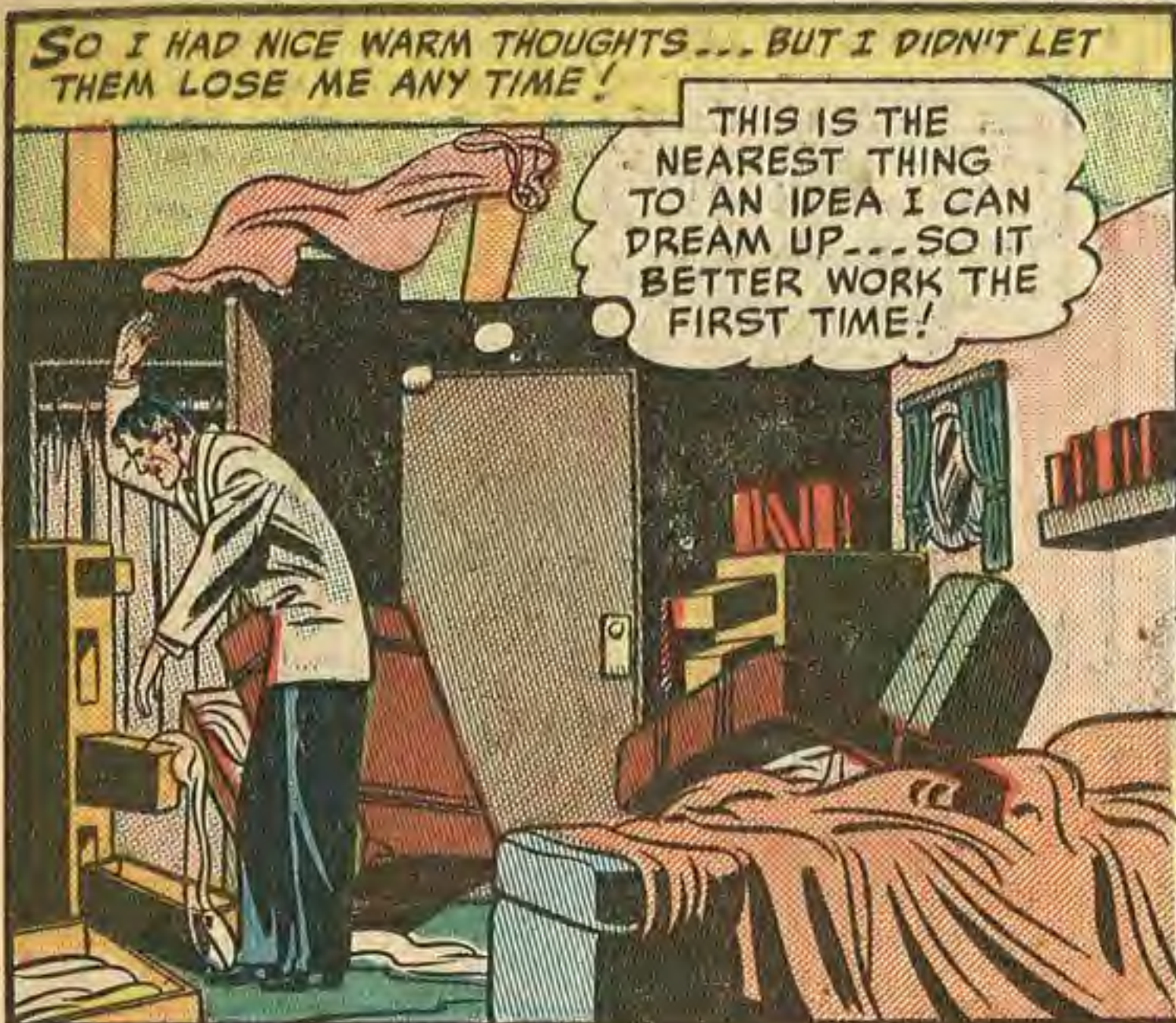
OH, BOY! WHAT A CHANCE TO PRACTISE THE JIU JITSU I LEARNED AS A WAC! GOOD LUCK, PETE!

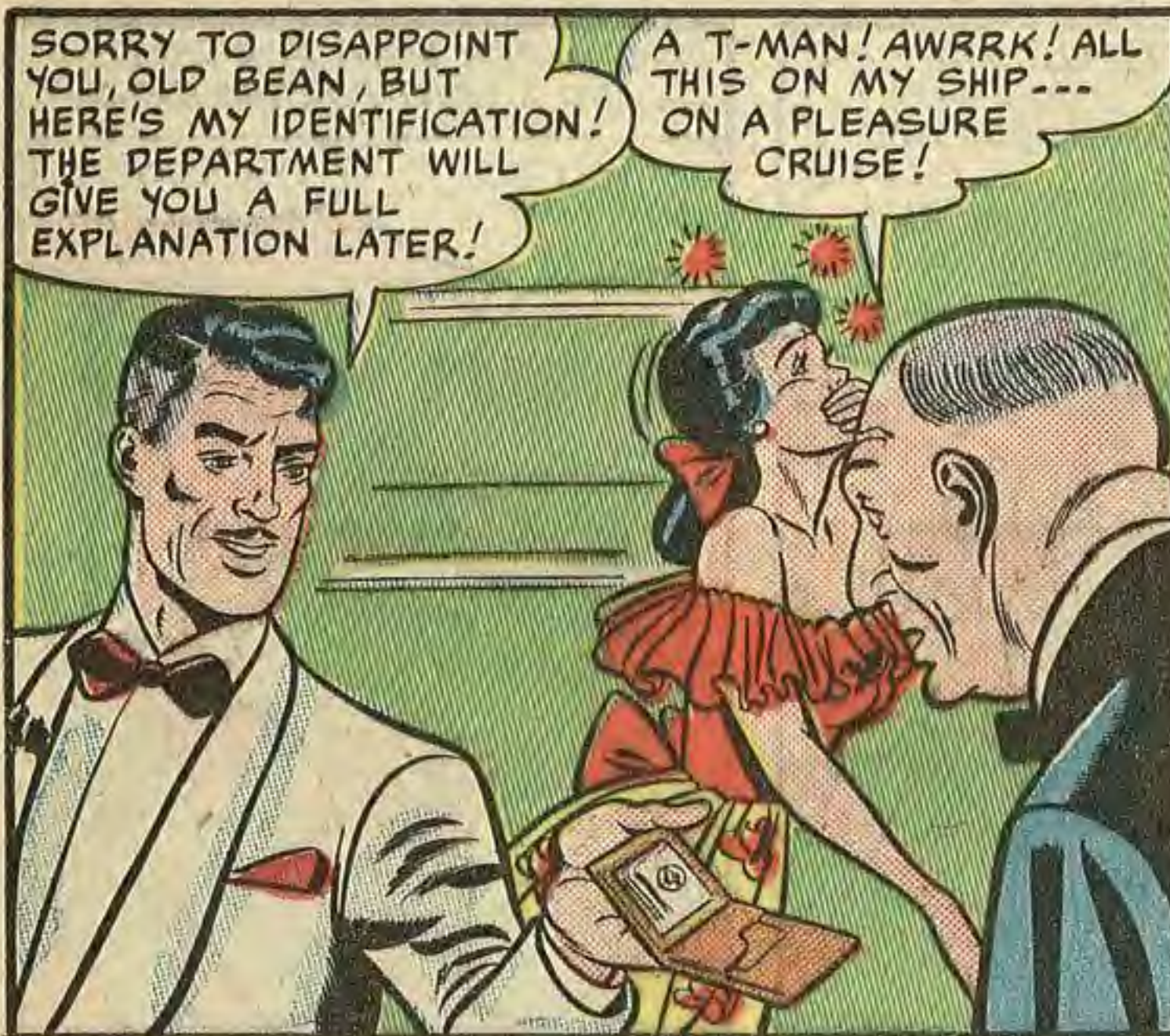
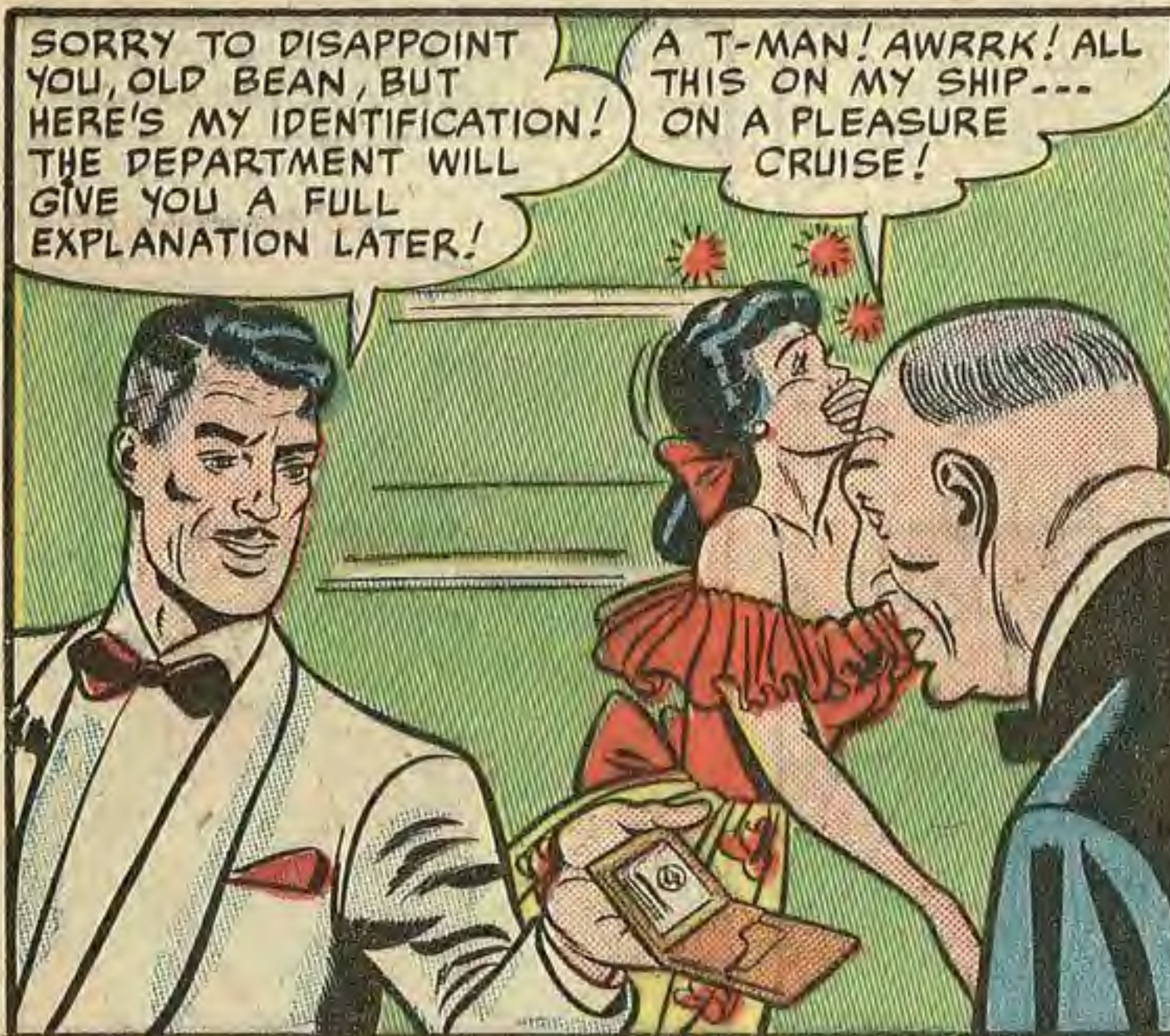
STAY SWEET, HONEY!

HEY... MFFF-BFFF!

WELL, I'LL BE A MONKEY'S UNCLE!







**DO YOU LIKE YOUR CRIME STORIES NECK DEEP
IN MYSTERY?**

**DO YOU LIKE TO BE KEPT IN SUSPENSE FROM
THE FIRST PAGE TO THE LAST?**

**DO YOU LIKE FAST MOVING EXPLOITS AGAINST
CRIME FILLED WITH QUICK-WITTED AND
INTERESTING DIALOGUE?**

IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES---THEN DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE OF

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THE BROKEN CORPSE

SHERIFF AUSTIN reached for the telephone lazily then suddenly came alive as he heard the caller yelling excitedly, "Sheriff, we've got a body on our island and it looks like murder! Better come over right away!"

"Who's talking?" asked Austin. "And where's the body? What island?"

"Jasper Island! This is Jed Fluke," replied the voice. "I called you as soon as I could get to the mainland! Thought at first it was an accident but I'm pretty sure now it wasn't!"

"Okay," shouted Austin. "Get back there and keep everyone away from the corpse. I'll pick up the coroner and be right over!"

Sheriff Austin's territory included the three small islands that lay off the main shore. Two were uninhabited wastes but Jasper was a summer resort colony and the home of a few native fishermen. A strange place for murder. The sheriff picked up Dr. Martin Jones, the coroner, and they secured a launch and headed for Jasper Island. When they landed, a native was waiting for them and carried them to the scene of the crime in an old jalopy.

The body lay on the rocks beneath a fifty foot cliff. A crowd of curious people had gathered round, including Jed Fluke who introduced himself.

"Jed," asked the sheriff, "who is he and what makes you think it's murder? Looks to me like he jumped off the cliff and committed suicide!"

"Well, if you notice, his coat's buttoned up. But his arms ain't in the sleeves—they're inside!" explained Jed. "Somebody had to help him into that fix!"

"Hmm, you're right," mused Austin. "Coroner, look this corpse over and tell me what you find."

Meanwhile, Austin asked for information. Several people identified the man as a vacationer who had been on the island a few weeks. He was known as a liberal spender and flashed a big bank roll wherever he went. He treated the natives with generosity and seemingly had no enemies.

The sheriff scratched his head. The victim's wallet and jewelry were missing which added up to robbery. That buttoned coat—murder! But there was no clue to the murderer. Coroner Jones finished his examination and he and the sheriff

went into a huddle and then, finally, Sheriff Austin walked over to Jed nodding with an air of assurance.

"Anybody have a plane on this island?" he asked.

"Sure," said Jed looking puzzled. "Young Williams has a small plane and landing field about five miles from here. Came up this Spring and has been takin' tourists for rides over the island. He ain't gettin' rich but I guess he's makin' out."

They drove over the rough back road and found Williams seated in front of a small shack that he used as an office and living quarters. Sheriff Austin didn't mince words. "Okay, Williams," he shouted. "The jig's up! I'm arresting you for murder!"

Williams turned pale and then resignedly held out his hands for the handcuffs and confessed. "Guess you've got me cold," he muttered. "Guess I'm not as smart as I thought I was. I did it but I didn't think anybody would find out!"

Jed stood and stared. All the way back in the car, he was deep in thought. And, later, when Sheriff Austin was preparing to take his prisoner back to the mainland, Jed came sidling over and touched him on the arm.

"I don't aim to be curious, sheriff," he said, "but this thing's got me beat. I'd sure like to know how you figured Williams for the murderer!"

"Well, Jed," explained Austin, "it wasn't much of a mystery after we knew the facts. At first, it looked like maybe the guy had been robbed and pushed off the cliff. But when the coroner told me that almost every bone in his body was broken, I had the answer!"

"Yeah?" Jed still looked puzzled.

"That couldn't happen by falling fifty feet. He had to fall from a much greater height. Well, that cliff's the highest place around here so there was only one other way—an airplane. Williams was the only one on the island with a plane. It all added up, only I didn't expect Williams to confess quite so fast!"

As the launch pulled away, Jed stood on the shore pondering over what he had just heard. "I'll be darned," he mumbled to himself. "Simple when somebody else figures it out! Sheriff Austin's sure a smart guy!"

T-MAN

INDIA, LAND OF MYSTERY! HA! THE MYSTERY TO ME IS HOW I EVER GOT OUT ALIVE! THE PATHANS HATE THE SIKHS... THE SIKHS HATE THE MOSLEMS... THE MOSLEMS HATE THE HINDUS... AND **EVERYBODY** HATED OLD MAN TRASK'S LITTLE BOY, PETE! IT WAS ALL ON ACCOUNT OF A RUNAWAY JEEP AND GERTIE ---
The **ELEPHANT WHO LOVED FLOWERS!**



IT WAS LATE AFTER-NOON WHEN I LANDED AT CHARKWAR, INDIA, TO MEET CHIEF ADAMS OF OUR LOCAL BUREAU!

PETE, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU! BUT WHAT IN THE NAME OF KRISHNA IS THAT PERFUME YOU'RE WEARING?

GAHHH! PERFUME, HE CALLS IT!



THAT IS SHAMPOO I BOUGHT IN DELHI! IT'S CALLED GARDEN OF TEN THOUSAND FRAGRANCES! I CAN'T GET THE LOUSY STUFF OUT!

YOU'D BETTER STAY DOWN-WIND OR SOMEBODY'LL PICK YOU FOR A VIOLET! CLIMB ABOARD, PETE!



AH, MY GOOD FRIEND, CHIEF ADAMS, WITH A GUEST TO RELIEVE OUR BOREDOM! HE PLAYS BRIDGE, I TRUST!

OH, HELLO, COUNT VOLPU! MEET PETE TRASK! I'M AFRAID WE'LL BOTH BE TOO BUSY TO PLAY BRIDGE FOR AWHILE!



THERE WERE ICICLES HANGING ON THAT INTRODUCTION AS WE DROVE OFF---

FROM YOUR WILD ENTHUSIASM, I GATHER THAT VOLPU EGG IS THE VILLAIN OF WHATEVER CASE I'M SUPPOSED TO BE ON!

IF YOU CAN PROVE THAT, PETE, I'LL BUY YOU THE TAJ MAHAL FOR A PRIVATE HAREM! I LIVE FOR THE DAY I CAN SLUG THAT SLIMY SNAKE!

HERE! CATCH UP ON THE LATEST NEWS FROM HOME!

WHAAAA? WHY, OF ALL THE DIRTY, LOW-DOWN LYING RAGS! YOU MEAN COUNT VOLPU PRINTS THIS VICIOUS FILTH?

INDIA NATIONAL NEWS—
RIOTS IN U.S.A.
WOMEN AND CHILDREN SHOT TO DEATH FOR REFUSING TO KNEEL BEFORE PRESIDENT
INDIA NATIONAL NEWS REFUSING TO KNEEL BEFORE PRESIDENT
MILLION AMERICANS STARVE TO DEATH IN ONE MONTH!

I'M SURE OF IT--- BUT WE CAN'T PROVE IT OR LOCATE HIS PRINTING PRESS! THAT'S YOUR JOB, BOY!

MAN, A HATE AMERICA CAMPAIGN LIKE THAT COULD THROW INDIA INTO THE ARMS OF THE REDS! I'LL GET THAT SLUG, I PROMISE YOU, CHIEF!

WE WERE BUZZING ALONG AT A PRETTY GOOD CLIP WHEN WE HIT A ROCK AND LOST CONTROL OF THE JEEP!

IN INDIA, EVERY SECT HATES EVERY OTHER, BUT THEY'D UNITE LONG ENOUGH TO HATE AN OUTSIDER WORSE! SO---
HEY!

LOOK OUT! GRAB THE WHEEL!

A DUMB COW PICKED THAT MOMENT TO AMBLE OUT OF AN ALLEY!

RUN, PETE! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!

WHAT TH---? THE COW ISN'T HURT!

DON'T STAND THERE, YOU FATHEAD! RUN!

I DIDN'T GET IT--- BUT WE RAN!

THIS WAY!

ONE SIDE OR A LEG OFF, SONNY!

WE DIVED IN AND OUT OF ALLEYS AND WOUND UP IN A DITCH ON THE EDGE OF TOWN!

OKAY, NOW WHAT'S THE PITCH? WHY DIDN'T WE JUST PAY THE GUY FOR DAMAGES ON HIS COW AND GO ON?

DAMAGES, HE SAYS! THAT WAS THE HINDU QUARTER WE WERE IN---AND COWS ARE SACRED TO THE HINDUS!

WHEN MOSLEMS WANT TO START A RIOT, THEY PRACTISE KORBANJI---SACRIFICE OF COWS---AND THE SLAUGHTER IS ON!

I FORGOT ABOUT THAT! WE WERE LUCKY TO--- ULP! WHAT TH---?

YIIII!

GRAWWK! STAND STILL, PETE! SHE WON'T HURT YOU!

RELAX, PETE! HE SAYS THE LITTLE ELEPHANT LOVES THE SMELL OF FLOWERS---AND YOU SMELL LIKE A HAREM GARDEN! SHE LOVES YOU!

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COME ON! I'LL TAKE MY CHANCES WITH THE HINDUS!

WE CAN REACH THE HOTEL SAFELY! BY MORNING EVERYTHING'LL BE SMOOTHED OVER AND WE'LL GET OUR JEEP BACK!

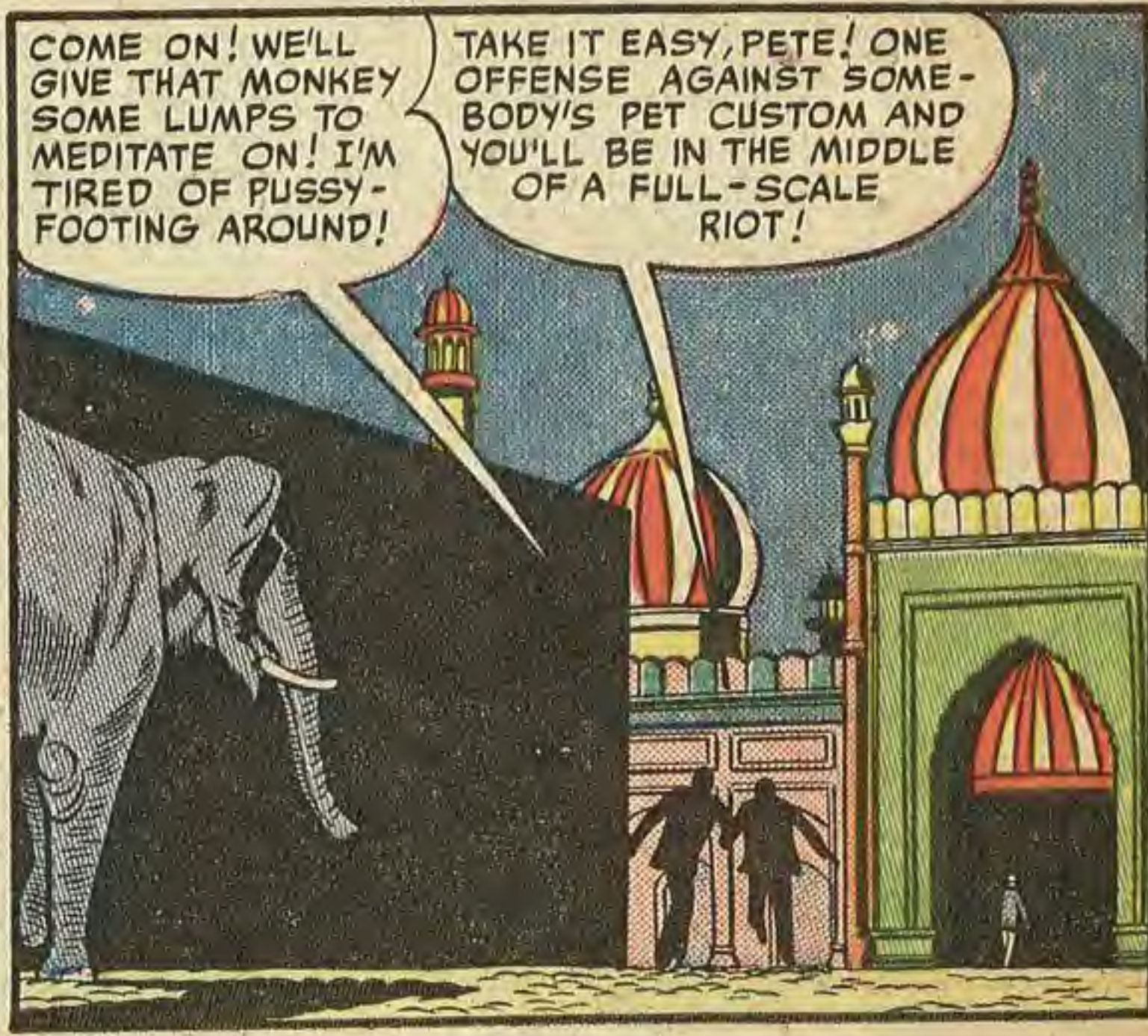
WE GOT TO WHAT WAS LAUGHINGLY CALLED MY HOTEL ROOM WITHOUT TROUBLE!

YOUR JOB IS TO FIND VOLPU'S PRINTING PRESS AND BREAK UP HIS RACKET! I'VE TRIED UNTIL I'M DIZZY!

I'LL FIND IT! I'D RATHER PROWL TONIGHT THAN TRY TO SLEEP ON ONE OF THESE CHARPOY STRING BEDS!

AFTER ALL, IF I LATCH ONTO VOLPU AND HANG TO HIS TAIL, SOONER OR LATER I'LL CATCH HIM AT HIS PRINTING PRESS!

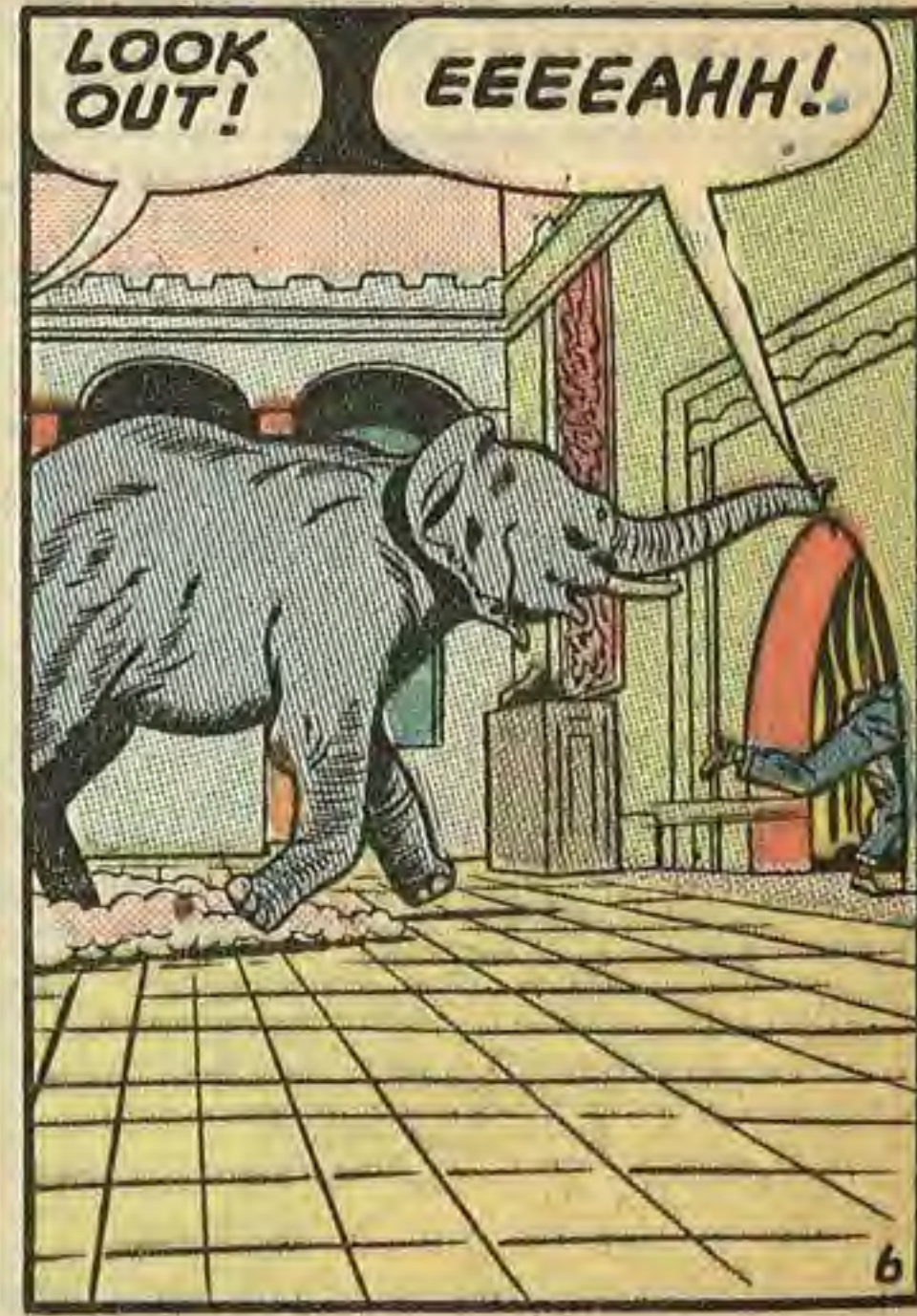
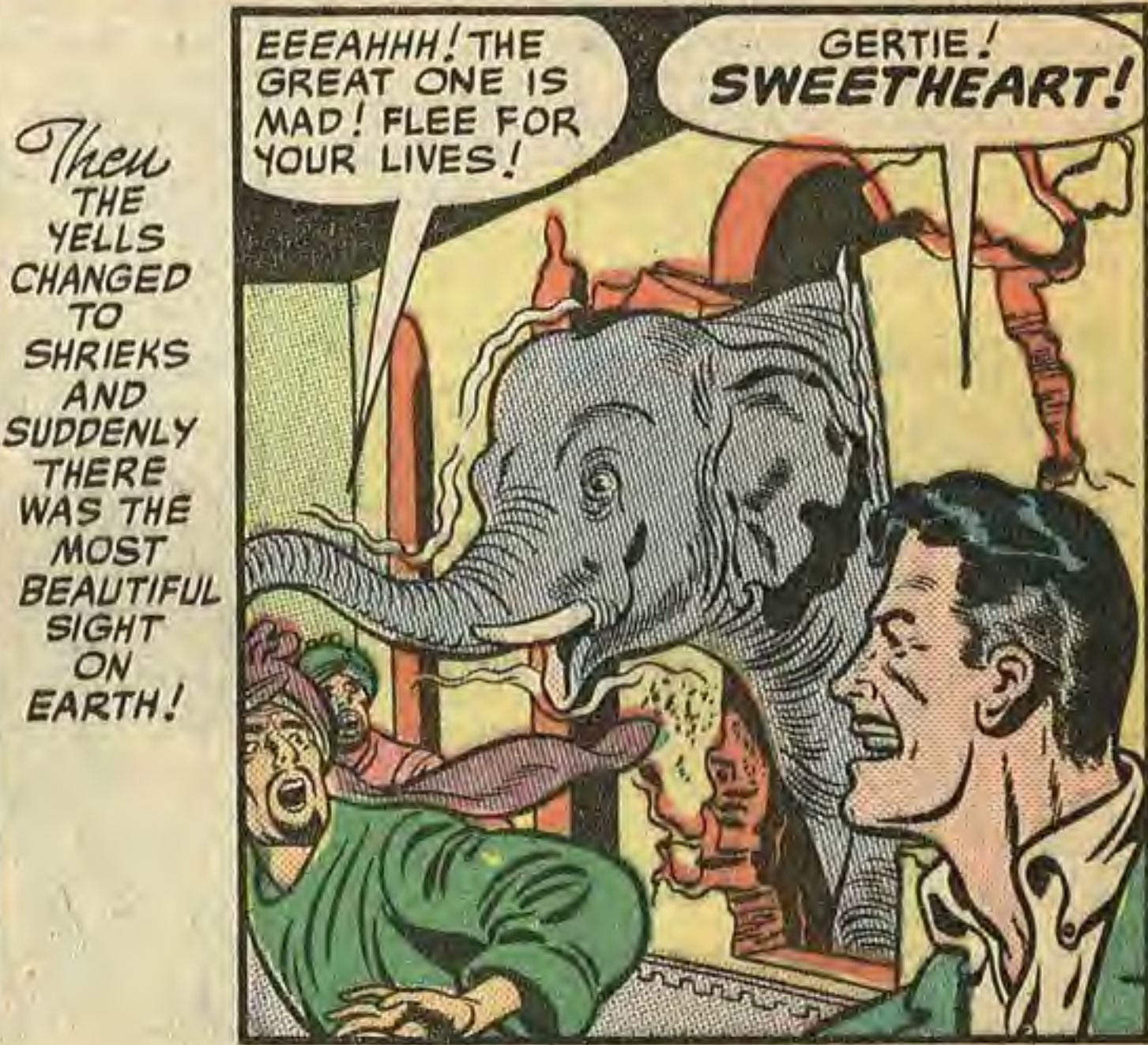
HUH! I'VE FOLLOWED THE GUY EVERYWHERE BUT INTO HIS MOSQUE AND THAT'S WHERE HE GIVES ME THE SLIP! TWO OF US MIGHT WIN!





MAYBE YOU THINK COLD CHILLS WEREN'T PLAYING LEAP-FROG ON MY SPINE WHEN WE KICKED OFF OUR SHOES AND ENTERED THE MOSQUE!







I CAN'T LOOK! THEY'LL MURDER EVERY AMERICAN IN INDIA OVER THAT WRECKED ALTAR AND HOLY ROCK!

YIIKE! LOOK!

CRASH



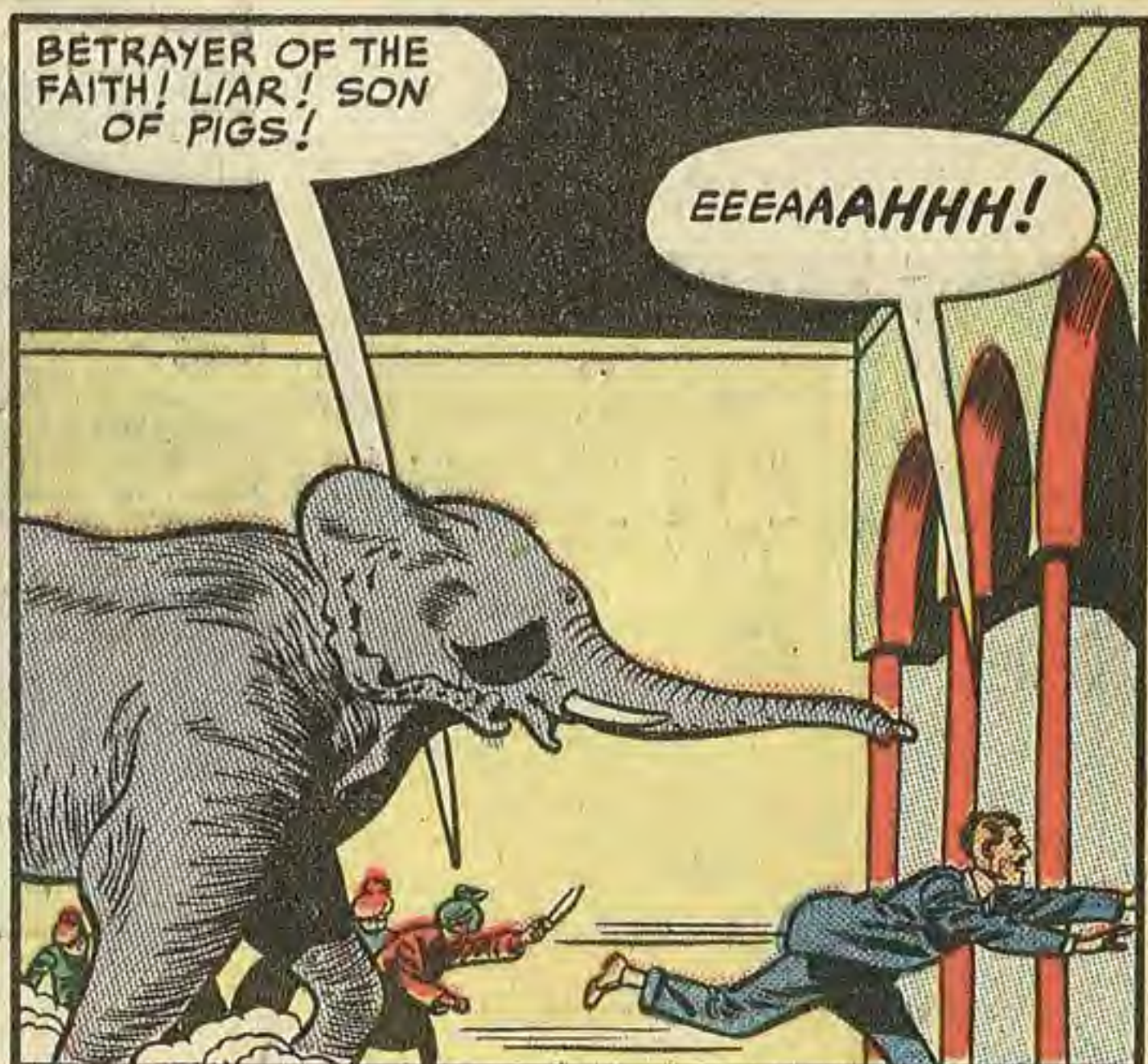
THAT'S WHAT WAS BEHIND THE ALTAR!

THE HATE-PRESS! NO WONDER WE COULDN'T FIND WHERE VOLPU HID HIS PRINTING! WOW!



MOSLEMS! WE ARE NOT DEFAMERS OF THE MOSQUE! **THERE** IS YOUR BETRAYER! HE USES THE HOLY TEMPLE OF ISLAM TO PRINT NEWSPAPERS!

AIEEEE! KILL THE FORK-TONGUED DECEIVER! DEATH TO VOLPU!



BETRAYER OF THE FAITH! LIAR! SON OF PIGS!

EEEEAAHHH!



WHAT A BREAK! THERE'S THE PROOF THAT VOLPU WAS A RED AGENT! NOW THEY'LL ALL UNITE IN HATING THE REDS!

AND WE OWE IT ALL TO GERTIE, THE PASSIONATE POSEY-PICKER!



COME ON, THERE'S A PLANE OUT AT MIDNIGHT AND I'M GOING TO BE ON IT! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF MOTHER INDIA!

BUT PETE, I'VE GOT A CHECK IN THE OFFICE FOR ALL YOUR EXPENSES FOR A FULL WEEK!



USE IT TO BUY A CASE OF SHAMPOO FOR GERTIE! SHE'S EARNED A REWARD!

SO HAVE YOU, PETE! AS YOUR REWARD I'LL PROMISE NOT TO SPREAD THE STORY OF THE ELEPHANT THAT FELL IN LOVE WITH YOUR HAIR!

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